

# Quartz Valley Indian Reservation

Quartz Valley Indian Reservation Attn: CCDF 13601 Quartz Valley Indian Reservation Fort Jones, CA 96032

February 22, 2021

Director Office of Child Care 330 C ST SW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20201

### Dear OCC Director:

This letter describes how Quartz Valley Indian Reservation plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the childcare needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

#### 1. Direct Services/Subsidies

 QVIR will continue to provide subsidy to families meeting our eligibility requirements.

## 2. Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

- Policies will continue to develop as the Covid-19 Pandemic unfolds. The QVIR CCDF Program will continue to follow the lead of Quartz Valley Indian Reservation Leadership and CDC guidelines; therefore, funding may be appropriated to the development of additional policies needed for our Child Care Subsidy program and our Active Care Setting to help with virus mitigation.
- Continue to provide PPE to families and Providers within the program to offset their cost of additional expenses during the Pandemic.
- Provide HEPA filters Air Purifiers to Providers and Recipients as well as installation by our Indian Housing Program staff to ensure proper installation; by offering it as a small grant Providers will be given the opportunity to request or decline this service. This filter deactivates mold and spores, prevent biotoxin buildup, kills bacteria, viruses, break down VOC's, and kills odors; by connecting to the HVAC system, we

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will be able to clean the entire house versus buying a bunch of small filters and/or cleaning one room at a time.

## 3. Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- Support our Providers with Technical Assistance/Equipment/Software to encourage social distancing by moving in the direction of Electronic Submission and Virtual Trainings.
- A stipend will be issued every four months to our Child Care Providers to acknowledge their frontline job and to offset the cost of cleaning supplies, PPE or any other cost they may be affected by during the Pandemic.

## 4. Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- To ensure new providers are assisted we plan on working with local partners/agencies to better understand the needs they may be facing.
- All Providers receiving subsidy payments through Quartz Valley Indian Reservation are Regulated Providers that have completed Health and Safety Trainings, passed Physical Exams/TB shot clearance, passed the background check, have a house/site facility review on file, and submitted the necessary documents to be determined "Regulated;" therefore, all Providers receive the same services based on their clearance and not on their start date.

#### 5. Other

- To encourage mental health awareness and wellness we will be enhancing our Gardening efforts by providing tool kits and seeds to our Community Members.
- We are building our cultural library by working with community members with the skillset to teach virtually and in-person; these videos will be available to our Providers and families.

The Quartz Valley Indian Reservation will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kayla Super QVIR Tribal Chairwoman Quartz Valley Indian Reservation

cc: Paul Noski, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 9 Kurt Gee, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 9 Joshua Lee, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 10